

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY CHILDREN'S NETWORK CBO PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

EAST VALLEY COLLABORATIVE

MISSION/PURPOSE

The East Valley Collaborative is a community partnership, committed to sharing collective knowledge and resources to enhance the quality of life by supporting youth and their families through education and the provision of mental, physical and social services.

MEETING MINUTES MAY 20, 2003

In Attendance:

Jennifer Celise-Reyes, Children's Network	(909) 387-5361
Steve Kniffen, Somebody Cares Southland	(909) 463-6379
Rosemary Merrin, New House, Inc.	(909) 881-0395
Nick Watson, Public Health	(909) 384-5600
Veronica Rivera, Catholic Charities	(909) 880-3625
Jaqueline Johnson, Catholic Charities	(909) 880-3625
CJ Page, S.H.O.W.T.I.M.E.	
Mary Jaquish, CBO Partnership – Chair	(909) 387-9074
Tammy Williams, Children's Network	(909) 387-5365
Joy Ellington, Educational Eclipse	

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting. Maybe more people will come, could be a variety of reasons such as budgets, heat, etc. Went around the table with introductions. Our presenter this month is Ivy Lewis, Loma Linda University ERU Consultant.

Announcements: Mary mentioned she spends lots of time researching funding opportunities and providing them to collaborative members. The same information is listed on the Children's Network website www.co.san-bernardino.ca.us/childnet as well. There will be a change in the Resource and Funding information, with most of it to be provided at the collaborative meetings. Mary stated it is important to be an active member and attend the collaborative meetings on a regular basis. The main purpose is to be present and collaborate together to provide the community with best possible services. For an example Operation Breakthrough in Big Bear through collaborating with other agencies was able to get grant funding of \$100,000 for 7 years. Operation Breakthrough will have to show they are collaborating and prove they have outcomes.

Mary reminded everyone that many funders want to see outcomes for the money they have granted.

Mary plans to provide more Resource and Funding information at the collaborative meetings instead of e-mailing it and putting it on the website so that the partners attending every month gain the most benefit due to their regular attendance.

2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

No additions or deletions to agenda.

3. Approval of April Minutes

No corrections or additions.

4. Guest Speaker, Ivy Lewis, Loma Linda University ERU Consultant – ImPACCTing Teen Pregnancy – The Results and the Future

Mary introduced Ivy Lewis from the imPACCT project. She is presently with the evaluation unit at Loma Linda University, School of Public Health. Ivy has a background in teaching, fund raising, etc.

Some of the highlights from Ivy Lewis presentation were:

- The imPACCT program was funded through a 7-year grant by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control).
- The program was operated by Children's Network with the fiscal agent as Children's Fund.
- Ivy referred everyone to his or her handouts – a Power Point presentation.
- ImPACCT was set up as a demonstration project to assess needs and define the hot spots for teen pregnancy prevention.
- The areas that were focused on were five zip codes within San Bernardino County in the cities of; San Bernardino, Colton, Fontana, and originally in Bloomington.
- CDC selected thirteen sites in the nation for this demonstration project out of 66 that applied.
- Our county's' project was the only one to have four partners, and more than one city.
- Some data gathered was the cost of local programs for financial needs and congressional budgets.
- There were two community collaboratives formed; Fontana Collaborative and TPPC (Teen Pregnancy Prevention Coalition) in San Bernardino. The collaboratives were moved to the afternoon so that teens could attend and give their input. Last year these two groups were rolled into the new group, East Valley Collaborative.

- A total of four million dollars was rolled out into the communities for various projects.
- There was some training on reducing the risk of pregnancy that was well attended.
- One of the major focuses was to get teens to successfully postpone sexual involvement for 18 months.
- The noontime activity at the high schools the project was involved with was 6 high schools. This program was transferred to the Y.E.S.S. program at San Bernardino County Department of Public Health.
- Another issue discussed was the cost of teen births to taxpayers for instance, in 2000 there were 188 less births to teens in the County which saved taxpayers \$532,228. Work needs to be done with the media to raise the awareness of the public on the cost of teen pregnancy.
- Another project was the “Children of Children” photo exhibit that was held in 2001 at the County Government Center. There were 2,100 people who came and viewed the photos and listened to the stories. From this photo exhibit; calendars, appointment books, note cards, and tablets were distributed in the community. The appointment books are a very helpful resource with agency referral information for teens to use.
- Last year five demonstration projects were used for direct service with teens; 1. Peer Factor – a teen health booth at Pharaoh’s Kingdom; 2. Latina Diabetes at Boys and Girls Club of San Bernardino, 3. Bradley-Lewis Mentor House, 4. Curtis Middle School Parent Involvement, and 5. Boys & Girls Club Youth Mentoring. The projects were very successful and the curriculum is free, contact Ivy Lewis if you would like to view it. World comparisons and National trends were discussed on the rate of teen pregnancy. It is believed teen pregnancies are considered differently by different cultures as well.
- The United States still has the highest rate of teen pregnancy in countries that are developed.
- There is research that proves the Hablando Claro – Plain Talk project operating in San Diego has been very successful. For further details you can link to their web site through The Annie E. Casey Foundation www.aecf.org or call (410) 547-6600.
- Ivy provided other references and stats on teen births.
- It is believed family structure directly relates to when the teen first has sexual involvement.
- There was some discussion about the surveys that were conducted and the results showing lack of communication between youth and their parents about sexual involvement.
- To get a report on some of the statistics from the graphs in the presentation you can contact Evelyn Trevino at the Department of Public Health at etrevino@dph.sbcounty.gov. The graphs would be very helpful information, when writing grants.

- Stats for Teen Births by Assembly District and Senate District were given. Senator Nell Soto had the 4th rating out of 40 counties with 2,632 teen births at a cost to taxpayers of \$73,000,000.
- Senator Soto has been having community meetings trying to address the teen pregnancy issues and reduce the number.
- The graphs and data focus on teen births between the ages of 15 to 19, but probably should focus on the 15 to 17. It is believed in some cultures that teens get married and have children by 19, so they should not be included in the data.
- There were numerous surveys and data collected during the 7 year project in this county. The overall results show what dollars were spent and how attitudes change. It was generally felt the collaborative did have a positive influence on the community.

Comments and questions: Stephani Congdon asked what happened with the surveys that collaborative members filled out? Ivy stated all the survey information has been to the CDC and they have not sent back any final information. Ivy and Dr. Montgomery are writing 6 to 7 journal articles for publication as a result of the project. The plan is still to continue some of the community programs that were instituted last summer, providing that the CDC has some funding available. A question was asked how are the costs determined for the teen births? Ivy responded that the Department of Public Health calculated the costs by adding up: medical expenses such as additional costs for pregnancies, children with health problems, children suffer from lower education grade level, and societal costs.

5. Handouts and Round Table Discussion

√Mary Jaquish of CBO Partnership reported: On Saturday, May 31st at Cal-State there will be a Regeneration Summit. The focus will be on the community – business, banking, and how to regenerate the community. This workshop should be very interesting and is funded by the California Endowment.

Mary passed out lots of other materials: 1) Other Valuable Information, 2) Networking Basics, 3) Proposal Writing: Internet Resources, 4) Answering A Request for Proposal (RFP), 5) Specializing in For-Profit and Non-Profit Organizations. The Networking Basics would be a very good exercise for a larger group, for instance everyone brings 5 business cards and exchanges them at the meeting. Mary mentioned we would try this exercise when there is a bigger attendance.

Grants are very competitive to apply for and work better when the agencies all collaborate. Mary also mentioned that the Resource Center is available everyday, just call her and make an appointment. Mary gave the suggestion to send your letters of inquiries to the other funders by just tweaking them a little.

For instance this month the WIA Grant was due and you could send the letter of inquiry to Aetna as well.

For outcomes, Mary has contacted several collaborative members to see how many grants they applied for, how many outstanding replies, how many letters of inquiry are out and how many denial letters you have received.

Mary reviewed some of the packet on proposal writing, Internet resources, it has some very good tutorial information and suggested to read it and share with others.

Mary asked do you have any questions, need stats or data? A HUD Grant deadline is July 15th. Mary can contact eCivis to get successful samples of grants she can share with you.

Mary also shared the flyer regarding a CPA and good things to ask when you need to hire a CPA.

√Jennifer Celise-Reyes of Children's Network reported: Jennifer mentioned she has 2 topics to speak on: First the Children's Network Annual Conference theme has been changed a little. Per Cathy Cimbalo, Director of Children's Services request part of the focus will be on the DCS (Department of Children's) redesign model. The State has set guidelines for the counties to change how they operate within the next 10 years. The new model will look similar to the MDT (Multi-disciplinary Team) model, Children's Network now has operating. It will be beneficial to agencies that work with the same families to attend and be part of the new process. The audience should be very large at the conference on September 18th at the Ontario Convention Center. Jennifer had applications if the agencies would like to be exhibitors or at least display their agencies' brochures, etc. The second thing to report on is Children's Network has once again kicked off the Safe Kids Summer campaign. The campaign runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The focus again this year is on drowning prevention and not leaving children unattended in cars. Children's Network has lots of materials available and a limited supply of some cute buckets for children to play with. For further information contact Jennifer at (909) 387-5361.

√Steve Kniffen, Somebody Cares Southland reported: Steve referred everyone to the WOW Jam flyer. The goal of the WOW Jam is to win the world through Jesus and music. The event is on May 31st, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Fontana (corner of Oleander and Valencia). Steve encouraged everyone to tell the families they work with to come. The event is free for the needy. Some of the items, etc. are: 1) Assistance with basic employment applications, 2) 1,000 boxes of groceries to give away, 3) 200 bikes will be given away, 4) bikes will be repaired, 5) terrific gifts like Karaoke machines given away, 6) terrific local talent to perform, etc. Steve's organization focuses on the most distress areas of Fontana, San Bernardino, Colton, Highland, and Rialto.

Steve mentioned the Collaborative, connecting, coordinating, and communicating Children's Network staff does everyday is vital to the community. Steve mentioned he is always interested in partnering and to contact him. He is now starting to work with the media. His primary agent is the church. He coordinates warehouse space and distribution of 40 to 50,000 pounds of food annually.

√Elaine and Rosemary Merrin of New House, Inc. reported: They are opening a new residential treatment home with 12 to 18 beds to assist those in treatment through transitional living by providing them links to the community such as job search, therapy, etc. At the facility they have a large grass area and a swimming pool. They will be opening a childcare center for the community as soon as Licensing comes out. They recently had an article in the Press Enterprise newspaper that was very positive. They plan to have a kick off fundraiser and will share a flyer. **Tammy invited them to attend the next Child Care & Planning Council meeting on June 11, 2003 at 10 a.m. at the Department of Children's Services, 825 E. Hospitality Lane, conference room B/C, San Bernardino.**

Mary Jaquish announced: 1) Children's Network is hosting meet the Funder, on June 4th at 10 a.m. at the Gents Club on Art Townsend Dr. in San Bernardino. The funder is Jose Marquez from the California Endowment to speak on funding for health related grants. It is a free event and all are welcome to attend; 2) In your packet is a flyer on the VBI Workshop on May 23rd at the San Bernardino Police Department from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to focus on Initial Steps to Developing Mentoring Programs. It should be a very good program, please let Mary know if you are interested.

√Nick Watson of Public Health reported: The funding is getting more difficult in the County and specifically the Program for Youth (YESS program) through Public Health ends on May 30, 2003. He works with the at-risk youth that are on TANF (Temporary Assistance Needy Families) and supervises other caseworkers. Nick explained there are lots of funding opportunities out there for agencies to serve at-risk youth. Some of the delays for the County to apply for grants can be the mail system, the chain of command, and approval process is very lengthy which causes a delay in applications. Nick mentioned he has 4 to 5 letters of inquiry out now. Nick mentioned his program assists at-risk youth by keeping them out of expensive psychiatric treatment when possible. Nick mentioned do not forget to refer your clients to Public Health, since they have lots of clinics with free to low cost services. **Nick mentioned he would forward a site on the Federal Register grants to Mary on available funding.** Nick mentioned that collaboration is definitely needed in these tough budget times with lots of potential cuts coming.

√CJ Page, SHOWTIME reported: He is still pursuing grants to keep the doors open to youth at his facility on Orange Show Road and Inland Center Drive. His program works with 17 to 21 years youth and coordinates services with a radio station KRLA.

Jennifer Celise-Reyes mentioned she would bring sponsor applications and scholarship forms for youth and parents to attend the Children's Network conference free to the next meeting of this group.

√Joy Ellington of Educational Eclipse reported: Educational Eclipse is a newly formed non-profit to enhance the educational process. Their first worksite tour is this Friday at KTLA for 12 youth to get to go behind the scenes. She is working on better media coverage and has 1 letter of inquiry out.

Ivy Lewis was thanked for her presentation and the terrific stats. Nick mentioned that 1/3 of the population of San Bernardino County is under 19 years of age and many of them below the poverty line.

- 6. NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, June 17, 2003
2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**County Superintendent of Schools
601 North E Street
San Bernardino**

THIS COLLABORATIVE WILL GO DARK IN SEPTEMBER.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Tammy Williams, Recording Secretary
Children's Network**

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